Pay scales of non-teaching employees

2825. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to bring the non-teaching employees pay-scale under the purview of "UGC Pay Committee" which was framed already in the background of Sixth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission Pay Review Committee has been constituted, independent of the Sixth Central Pay Commission, and its terms of reference are limited to teachers and academic staff in universities and colleges. It has been decided that the pay scales and other service conditions of non-academic staff shall be considered separately in the light of the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission as may be accepted by the Central Government.

Expenditure on Education

2826. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to improve the state of edcuation in the country, Government plans to increase the expenditure on this sector to Rs. 2,77,837 crore in Eleventh Five Year Plan, from Rs. 59,181 crore in Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether this spending includes expenditure on elementary, adult and higher education;

(c) whether according to Planning Commission's data, total public spending, plan and non-plan, on education in 2006-07 was about 3.79 per cent of the gross domestic product and this is expected to increase to 5 per cent of GDP by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) to what extent this raising of fund would help in improving the education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per Eleventh Five Year Plan, as approved by National Development Council (NDC), an allocation of Rs. 269873 crore has been provided to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) (Rs. 184930 crore for the Department of School Education & Literacy, and Rs. 84943 crore for the Department of Higher Education) as compared to a total expenditure of about Rs. 58624 crore during the Tenth Five Year Plan. This allocation of Ministry of HRD for Eleventh Five Year Plan includes allocations for elementary, secondary, adult, general higher and technical education.

(c) Planning Commission has indicated that substantial increase proposed in allocation for Ministry of Human Resource Development during Eleventh Five Year Plan over the Tenth Five Year Plan expenditure, reflects the high priority being given to education sector and represents a credible progress towards raising the public spending to 6% of the GDP. As per the data available with Ministry of Human Resource Development, public expenditure on Education as percentage of GDP during 2006-07 is about. 3.6%.

(d) The increased allocation during Eleventh Plan is expected to lead to increased access while ensuring quality and inclusiveness.

Reviewing the functioning of UGC and AICTE

2827. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry, in tune with the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission has constituted a panel to review the functioning of UGC and AICTE;

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of the panel and by when it would submit its report;

(c) whether the panel would also look into the aspects of regulatory mechanism in the field of higher education and the contemporary changes taking place in the area of university education;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) A Review Committee has been constituted by Government under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman, University Grants Commission to review the functioning of the University Grant Commission and the All India Council for Technical Education. The terms of reference of the Committee are:—

(i) To review the functioning of the UGC/AICTE and to critically assess the role of the UGC/AICTE and their preparedness to provide institutional leadership to the emerging demands of access, equity, relevance and quality of higher education/technical education and the university system.

(ii) To review the provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 and various suggestions for amendments to the said Acts by earlier Commissions such as the Prof. Amreek Singh Committee.

(iii) The role of the UGC in coordinating standards of higher education *vis-a-vis* the functional role of other statutory bodies such as AICTE, MCI, DCI, NCI, NCTE, DEC, etc.

(iv) An assessment of the requirements of autonomy of the UGC *vis-a-vis* the Central Government and that of the university system *vis-a-vis* the UGC.

(v) The role of the UGC/AICTE in determining and enforcing standards of higher education/technical education in State Universities and the possibility of introducing a system of incentives and disincentives so that national standards of higher education/ technical education are not compromised or diluted.

(vi) Recommendations in regard to an effective and efficient mechanism for flow of resources from the UGC to the universities for their timely utilization including a mechanism of feedback thereto.